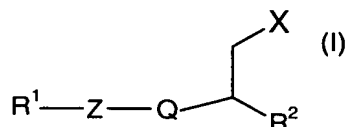


Abstract of the Disclosure

Compounds of Formula (I):



wherein:

R¹ is optionally substituted -C₄₋₁₂ alkyl, -C₂₋₁₀alkylcycloalkyl, -C₂₋₆alkylheterocycloalkyl, -C₂₋₆alkylaryl, optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aryl or heteroaryl with the proviso that R² is not pyridinyl;

Z is a bond, CH₂, O, S, SO, SO₂, NR⁴, OCR⁴R⁵ or CR⁴R⁵O; or Z, R¹ and Q together form an optionally substituted fused tricyclic group;

Q is an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aryl or heteroaryl ring;

X is COR³;

R² is CONH₂, CO₂H, CO₂R⁷, SO₂R⁷ or SO₂NR⁸R⁹, with the proviso that R² is not CO₂R⁷, when X is CONH₂;

R³ is OR⁶ or NR⁸R⁹;

R⁴ and R⁵ each independently is H, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₁₋₄ alkylaryl;

R⁶ is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R⁷ is C₁₋₆ alkyl; and

R⁸ and R⁹ each independently is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl; or R⁸ and R⁹ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6- membered ring which may optionally include 1 or more further heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;
or

physiologically functional derivatives thereof, with the proviso that formula (I)

compounds are not:

[3-(acetylamino)-4-cyclohexylphenyl]-butanedioic acid and 3-(acetylamino)-4-cyclohexylphenyl]-butanedioic acid diethyl ether;

butanedioic acid [3-methoxy-4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl]; or

butanedioic acid [4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl]; and

with the proviso that when R¹ is C₄₋₁₂alkyl, Z is other than a bond, O or CH₂;

and physiologically functional derivatives thereof, processes for their preparation, pharmaceutical formulations containing them and their use as inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinase enzymes (MMPs) are described.